

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00  
PM-03 DODE-00 MC-01 EB-03 L-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-10  
SP-02 PRS-01 /054 W  
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P R 021600Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7362  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 3329

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, TU, US GR  
SUBJ: US-TURKISH RELATIONSHIP

1. FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL RETURNED TO ANKARA SUNDAY MAY 1  
AND FOLLOWING DAY ASKED ME TO MEET WITH HIM. MFA  
SECGEN ELEKDAG AND EMBOFF FRANCIS ALSO PRESENT.  
CAGLAYANGIL APOLOGIZED FOR REQUESTING ME TO COME ON  
SUCH SHORT NOTICE BUT INDICATED HE WAS MUCH CONCERNED  
OVER RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE US/TURKISH RELATIONSHIP.  
WHEN SECRETARY CLIFFORD WAS HERE, THE GOT HAD ASKED  
THE NEW ADMINISTRATION TO DO SOMETHING PROMPTLY ABOUT  
THE EMBARGO. IT WAS KNOWN AT THE TIME, CAGLAYANGIL  
SAID, THAT THE GREEKS WOULD OPPOSE THIS, FOR IT IS  
KNOWN TO EVERYONE THAT THE GREEKS OPPOSE ACTIONS WHICH  
WOULD REESTABLISH GOOD US/TURKISH RELATIONS. THE GOT  
HAD EXPECTED HOWEVER THAT THE USG WOULD "EVALUATE  
THE GREEK ATTITUDE CORRECTLY" AND WOULD ACT ACCORDINGLY.

2. WHEN AMBASSADOR ESENBEL WAS RECENTLY IN ANKARA,  
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CAGLAYANGIL CONTINUED, HE HAD ADVISED THE GOT THAT THE  
US WOULD ASK THE CONGRESS FOR \$175 MILLION OF CREDIT  
AND FOR A LIFTING OF THE LIMITATIONS ON FMS CASH SALES.  
GOT OFFICIALS HAD EXPECTED MORE, SAID CAGLAYANGIL,  
AND THEREFORE THEY HAD PUBLICLY STATED THAT THEY WERE NOT REPEAT  
NOT SATISFIED. EVENTS, HOWEVER, HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY  
DEVELOPED IN SUCH A WAY THAT EVEN THIS

SITUATION "IS LEFT BEHIND US." THE FMS CEILING EXEMPTION HAS BEEN ALTERED TO COVER ONLY F-4'S, AND NOW APPARENTLY EVEN THIS IS IN DOUBT.

3. IN THE MEANTIME, SAID CAGLAYANGIL, TURKISH MINISTER OF FINANCE ERGENEKON HAS BEEN IN WASHINGTON. THE WORLD BANK HAD BEEN NEGATIVE WITH HIM, AS HAD MANY PRIVATE FIGURES REPRESENTING THE US CAPITAL MARKET. IT IS THE GOT'S IMPRESSION THAT THE LATTER'S NEGATIVISM WAS BASED ON A WORLD BANK SIGNAL. THE RESULT WAS THE MINISTER WAS REBUFFED IN HIS EFFORTS TO FIND NEW CREDIT. MOREOVER, MINISTER ERGENEKON ASKED TO SEE THE US SECRETARY OF TREASURY AND THIS REQUEST HAD BEEN TURNED DOWN.

4. THE US, AS A SUPER POWER, WAS, OF COURSE, FREE TO FOLLOW ANY POLICY AND TAKE ANY STEPS IT CHOSE, SAID CAGLAYANGIL. BUT OUT OF THIS COLLECTION OF DEVELOPMENTS, A MOSAIC WAS EVOLVING WHICH MADE IT CLEAR THAT US WAS MAKING A CHOICE BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY. THAT AGAIN, HE STRESSED, IS THE US RIGHT, BUT TURKEY CANNOT MAKE ANY CHANGE IN ITS POLICY BECAUSE OF US PRESSURE. TO LINK US/TURKISH SECURITY RELATIONSHIPS WITH US/GREEK MATTERS IS DANGEROUS AND UNACCEPTABLE. DURING PRESIDENT CARTER'S ELECTION CAMPAIGN, TURKEY HAD REMAINED SILENT IN THE FACE OF MANY HOSTILE STATEMENTS. BUT PRESIDENT CARTER, HAVING COME THROUGH A DIFFICULT CAMPAIGN, SHOULD HIMSELF UNDERSTAND HOW DIFFICULT IT WILL BE FOR TURKISH LEADERS TO

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EXPLAIN THE US COURSE HERE. THE GOT BELIEF HAS BEEN THAT THE US/TURKISH SECURITY RELATIONSHIP IS IN THE MUTUAL INTEREST OF BOTH OUR COUNTRIES, BUT IT TAKES MORE THAN ONE PARTY TO ADHERE TO THIS BELIEF IF IT IS TO CONTINUE TO BE VALID. CAGLAYANGIL THEN CLOSED HIS REMARKS BY ASKING THAT I REPEAT TO WASHINGTON EXACTLY WHAT HE HAD TOLD ME.

5. I SAID THAT I WOULD, OF COURSE, DO SO. I ADDED THAT I WAS CERAIN THAT THE NEW ADMINISTRATION WAS GENUAINELY WORKING TO STRAIGHTEN OUT US-TURKISH RELATIONSHIPS AND THAT IT HOPED TO GET THESE REESTABLISHED ON A FIRM FOOTING IN THE MONTHS IMMEDIATELY AHEAD. I NOTED THAT THERE WERE THOSE IN CONGRESS WHO DID NOT REPEAT NOT REGARD THE STEPS THAT THE NEW ADMINISTRATION WAS TAKING AS A TILT AGAINST TURKEY. ON THE CONTRARY, THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROGRAM WAS BEING CRITICIZED IN SOME QUARTERS FOR BEING TOO PRO-TURKISH. I REMINDED THE FONMIN THAT

WHILE THERE HAD BEEN SOME ORATORIAL EXCESSES IN THE CAMPAIGN, AS IN ANY CAMPAIGN, PRESIDENT CARTER HIMSELF HAD MADE AN EFFORT TO AVOID THESE, AND SINCE THE CAMPAIGN HAD GONE FIRMLY ON RECORD AS DESIRING TO REESTABLISH US/TURKISH RELATIONSHIPS ON A SOUND FOOTING.

6. WITH RESPECT TO THE TREASURY APPOINTMENT, I WAS SURE THAT THE SECRETARY OF TREASURY WOULD HAVE LIKED TO MEET WITH THE MINISTER OF FINANCE, BUT I DID NOT KNOW HOW MUCH WARNING WAS GIVEN TO SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL OR WHAT HIS SCHEDULING PROBLEMS WERE AT THE TIME. CERTAINLY I COULD ASSURE HIM THAT IT HAD BEEN A MATTER OF SCHEDULING RATHER THAN OF POLICY.

7. CAGLAYANGIL SAID HE WOULD REPEAT MY COMMENTS TO THE PRIMIN THEN, SPEAKING VERY DELIBERATELY, HE AGAIN ASKED  
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ME TO BE CERTAIN TO REPORT TO MY GOVERNMENT THE EXACT STATEMENT HE HAD MADE TO ME. CONCERN OVER THE TREATMENT OF THEIR MINISTER OF FINANCE-AND CONCERN OVER THE OTHER SUBJECTS HE HAD RAISED-WERE NOT MATTERS OF "ORIENTAL SENSITIVITY." RATHER, HE WAS ATTEMPTING TO ANALYZE THE SITUATION IN AN OBJECTIVE MANNER. "PERHAPS," HE SAID, " I AM MAKING THE LAST DEFENSE FOR OUR FRIENDSHIP."

8. TAKING EXCEPTION TO THIS REMARK, I NOTED THAT WITH MUTUAL PATIENCE WE HAD COME THROUGH SOME DIFFICULT YEARS AND NOW WE WERE PERHAPS WITHIN A MATTER OF MONTHS OF GETTING OUR RELATIONSHIP STRAIGHTENED OUT. SURELY THIS WAS NOT THE TIME FOR EITHER SIDE TO LOSE ITS PATIENCE WITH THE OTHER. I THEN NOTED THAT HE AND PRIMIN DEMIREL WOULD BE TALKING WITH THE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY VANCE AND SECRETARY CLIFFORD IN LONDON AND THIS WOULD OFFER AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY FOR A CANDID FACE-TO-FACE EXCHANGE ON THE MATTERS WE HAD BEEN DISCUSSING. CAGLAYANGIL'S RESPONSE WAS "I WILL REPORT WHAT YOU HAVE SAID TO THE PRIMIN." THINKING HE HAD MISUNDERSTOOD ME, I REPEATED THE DESIRABILITY OF A FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS IN LONDON. THE FOMIN IN TURN REPEATED "I WILL REPORT EVERYTHING YOU HAVE SAID TO THE PRIMIN.

MACOMBER

NOTE: CHANGE FROM EXDIS TO LIMDIS PER ANKARA 3330

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NNN

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